(b) Prasar Bharati has informed that AIR has not spent crores of rupees in connection with Platinum Jubilee Celebrations.

Licence for DTH Services

4589. SHRIP. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING he pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have laid down guidelines for obtaining licence for DTH services;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of companies which have applied for DTH licence as on date;

(d) whether there is any provision for conditional Letter of intent for starting DTH service and if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government have received any application for the grant of conditional Lol; and

(f) if so, details thereof and decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Detailed Guidelines Issued on 15-3-2001 for Operating the DTH Service are Available on this Ministry's Website mib.nic.in.

(c) to (f) Three applications have been received for permission to start DTH service in the country. These are under process. The applicant company has to comply with the terms and conditions laid down in the DTH guidelines. The letter of intent will be issued as per procedure laid down in the Guidelines and deposit of a sum of Rs. Ten Crore by the applicant.

Operational results of Prasar Bharti

4590. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the operational results of Prasar Bharati Corporation show a fiscal deficit despite scope for large volumes of advertising revenue;

(b) if so, whether there is a proposal to bridge the gap by imposing annual licence fee on more than 12 crore radio receivers and 8.25 crores TV receivers all over the country; and

(c) whether Government propose to consider making its TV channels as 'pay channels' to generate additional revenue and also at the same time giving the viewers the option to stay out if not interested?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) (a) Prasar Bharati has informed that both AIR and DD have always had fiscal deficit, even before they became part of Prasar Bharati. Moreover, during last few years growth in advertising revenue in the country has been very tardy.

(b) Prasar Bharati has informed that such a proposal is under consideration of Prasar Bharati Board.

(c) The Government does not have any TV Channels Prasar Bharati, a Statutory Autonomous Corporation, has informed that there is no such proposal.

Programmes on Doordarshan

†4591. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI LAJPATRAI:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the programmes are purchased from private sector institutions or got prepared for telecast on Doordarshan;

(b) if so, the number of programmes got prepared and purchased separately during the years 1998-99 to 2002-03, year-wise; and

(c) the names of the institutions from which these programmes were got prepared or purchased together with the amount spent thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Modernisation of the office of the Registrar of Newspapers for India

4592. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to modernise the office of the Registrar of Newspapers for India;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the amount allocated in the Tenth Plan for modernising the said organisation?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.